identified land for 'land banks' and the requirement of land for compensatory afforestation is being met from such land banks to the extent feasible.

Shortage of levy sugar in Maharashtra

1896. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has stated its inability to distribute 425 gms of levy sugar per head/month as per Central Government policy as only 29938 MTs of sugar is allotted against required allocation of 35987 MTs;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government has represented that some sugar factories refused to release levy sugar on the pretext that they have no stock or are exempted from supply of levy sugar and therefore Central Government should allot sugar from factories which have required stock of levy sugar; and

(c) whether Government will increase the allotment of levy sugar to Maharashtra and also allot sugar from factories which have required stock of levy sugar available with them?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra during June, 1994 had reported that they could not lift levy sugar to the tune of 15,393.9 MT from January upto May, 1994 within the specified validity period. The matter was examined and it was decided to allot a quantity of 3,500 MT to the State Government to meet the requirement. The State Government of Maharashtra was also informed accordingly.

(c) Government has decided to restore 5% adhoc increase in monthly levy sugar allocation of all States/Union Territories including Maharashtra from September, 1995 by making allotments of sugar from factories which have required stocks of levy sugar available with them.

Coal Washeries in CIL

1897. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the average capacity utilisation by coal washeries during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for under utilisation of capacity;

(c) the total quantity of coal washed during last three years;

(d) the quantity of imports of coking coal during the last three years (year wise) and to what extent this can be saved by optional utilisation of indigenous washing capacity; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to improve capacity utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Average capacity utilisation of fifteen coking coal washeries of Coal India Limited (CIL) during the last three years are as under:

Year	Average percentage capacity utilisation of operable capacity
1992-93	67.76
1993-94	68.23
1994-95	68.20

(b) Main reasons for under utilisation of the capacity of existing washeries are as under:

(i) Most of the washeries are old and are designed to process better quality coals. Due to depletion of these reserves over the years, the ash content in the raw coal feed has increased affecting the performance of washeries considerably.

(ii) Inadequate raw coal feed to washeries.

(iii) Frequent power failures.

(c) The total quantity of raw coal washed in coking coal washeries of CIL during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Quantity of raw coal washed (in million tonnes)
1992-93	17.12
1993-94	17.23
1994-95	17.06

(d) and (e) The quantity of coking coal imported by the steel companies during the last three years are given below: